

(b) In para 5.25 of the Explanatory memorandum attached with the tariff order of TRAI dated 31.08.2006, it has been stated that neither CAS nor DTH has come to the Pakistan market. Accordingly, individual pricing of channels in an addressable system has not yet been attempted there.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. Clause 4 & 6 of the Quality of Service regulations issued by TRAI have provisions relating to complaints handling and redressal in respect of cable services in CAS areas. The regulations are available on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in.

Pay-TV Piracy

1705. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether pay-TV piracy is reportedly rising in Asia and estimated to cost the industry \$ 1.13 billion in 2006, a 6.6 per cent increase from 2005;

(b) whether according to study report by Cable and Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CAS-BAA), of 11 Asian countries, India remains to be region's biggest loser to pay-TV piracy, which is expected to cost the industry \$ 685 million;

(c) if so, the amount "Pay-TV Piracy" would lead to tax revenue losses to India in US dollars during 2006 as compared to 2005; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) There is no authentic source which projects Pay TV piracy figures in India. However, as per the Cable and Satellite Broadcasting Association of Asia (CASBAA) report, Pay-TV piracy is one the rise and India's pay TV revenue leakage figure has been estimated to be US \$ 685 million in net losses. No figures regarding tax revenue losses in India due to 'Pay TV Piracy' has been estimated by the Government of India.

(d) As per the CASBAA Report on Pay TV piracy, most of the pay TV revenue leakage is reported to be due to under reporting by last mile cable operators. The problem of under reporting can be tackled by introduction

of addressable systems. The Government of India policy of promoting DTH and introduction of CAS in selected areas of 4 metro cities of Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai is a step in the direction of introducing addressability.

Posts lying vacant in Sambalpur Doordarshan Kendra

†1706. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present number of the employees in the Sambalpur Doordarshan Kendra is even one fourth less than the sanctioned strength and the posts of 22 employees are lying vacant there, resulting in non-telecasting of the regional news bulletin itself;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action being taken to fill these vacancies;

(c) by when the recruitment of the employees is likely to be made for the smooth functioning of Sambalpur Doordarshan Kendra; and

(d) the steps being taken for upgradation of transmitters and other facilities there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir. The total sanctioned strength at DDK, Sambalpur in different cadres is 70. Out of these, 51 posts are presently filled up. There is no Regional News Unit at the Kendra. However, the Regional news bulletin is telecast from DDK, Bhubaneswar and all its bulletins are relayed by DDK, Sambalpur.

(b) and (c) Filling up and occurrence of vacancies is a continuous process. Efforts are being made to fill up posts, wherever possible, through redeployment of staff, promotions.

(d) DDI HPT (1KW) at Sambalpur set up in 1978, and DD 2 (News), set up in 1995, were upgraded to HPTs (10 KW) in 2001 with new 150 M Tower. Facilities at Studio, Sambalpur have also been augmented from time to time. Augmentation of facilities at Studio Centres is a continuous process.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.